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Appl. No. 09/660,500
November 21, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-20 Canceled.

21. (currently amended) A method for facilitating communication over disjoint networks with between a node and a mobile system different from the node over disjoint networks, the method comprising:

using first data identifying the node to establishing communications communicate over a first network between a the node and said mobile system different from the node over a first network;

sending, to the mobile system over the first network, further data at least in part identifying the node on at least a second network disjoint from the first network, said further data being at least in part different from said first data; and

using the further data to establish communication communicate between the mobile system and the node over the second network.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 further including authenticating the mobile system for authorization to communicate with the node over the second network before sending the further data to the node mobile system over the first network.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 wherein the sending step comprises sending distributed interface data to the mobile system over the first network.

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24. (currently amended) A network as in claim 21 wherein said mobile computing device system comprises a network interface adapter that is physically attached to at least one of said first network and said second network.

25. (currently amended) A network as in claim 21 wherein said first network comprises a network point of attachment, and said mobile computing device system communicates wirelessly with the network point of attachment.

26. (currently amended) A method for maintaining providing communication communications between a mobile computing systems and a network node different from said mobile computing systems as the mobile computing systems roams between over a plurality of disjoint networks, comprising:

establishing communications between the mobile computing systems and a the network node via a first network segment;

sending the mobile computing systems, via the first network segment, information for use in re-establishing communicationscommunicating with said network node via plural further network segments each at least some of which are disjoint from the first network segment; and

using said information to re-establish communicationscommunicate between the mobile computing systems and the network node via any of said plural further, disjoint network segments; and

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conditioning access to communications over said at least some of said disjoint networks with said network node and protecting at least some of said disjoint network segments from unauthorized communications based at least in part on said information.

27. (Previously presented) The process of claim 26 wherein said information comprises distributed interface data.

28-29 (Canceled)

30. (new) The process of claim 26 further including authenticating the mobile system for authorization to communicate with the node over at least one of said disjoint network segments before sending the further data to the node.

31. (new) The process of claim 26 wherein said mobile system comprises a network interface adapter physically attached to at least one of said disjoint network segments.

32. (new) The process of claim 26 wherein said mobile system shares its interface address with each of said plural disjoint network segments so that if the mobile system roams into any one of the disjoint network segments and detects that it has roamed onto a different network segment, the mobile end system selects an applicable network address to communicate with the node via said disjoint network segment into which said mobile end system has roamed.

33. (new) The process of claim 32 wherein mobile end system selects said network address based on a metric.

34. (New) The process of claim 33 wherein said metric comprises speed.

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35 (New). The process of claim 33 wherein said metric comprises cost.

36 (New). The process of claim 33 wherein said metric comprises availability.

37 (New). The process of claim 33 wherein said metric comprises number of hops.

38. (new) A system for facilitating communication over disjoint networks between a node and a mobile system different from the node, the system comprising:

a first network;

a node coupled to the first network;

a mobile system also coupled to the first network, said mobile system being different from the node, said mobile system using first data identifying the node to communicate with the node over the first network;

a data transmitter coupled to the first network, said data transmitter sending, to the mobile system over the first network, further data at least in part identifying the node on at least a second network disjoint from the first network, said further data being at least in part different from said first data;

said mobile system using the further data at least in part identifying the node to communicate with the node over the second network.

39. (new) The system of claim 38 further comprising means for authenticating the mobile system for authorization to communicate with the node over the second network before sending the further data to the mobile system.

40. (new) The system of claim 38 wherein the further data comprises distributed interface data.

41. (new) The system as in claim 38 wherein said mobile system comprises a network interface adapter that is physically attached to said first network.

42. (new) The system as in claim 38 wherein the data transmitter comprises a network point of attachment, and said mobile system communicates wirelessly with the network point of attachment.

43. (new) A system for providing communications between mobile computing systems and a network node different from said mobile computing systems as the mobile computing systems roam between a plurality of disjoint networks, comprising:

a first network segment that establishes communications between mobile computing systems and the network node;

a data transmitter that sends the mobile computing systems, via the first network segment, identifying information for use in reaching said network node via plural further network segments at least some of which are disjoint from the first network segment;

said mobile computing systems using said identifying information to communicate with the network node via at least one of said plural further, disjoint network segments; and

a policy manager that conditions access to communications over said at least some of said disjoint networks with said network node and protects at least some of said

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disjoint network segments from unauthorized communications based at least in part on said identifying information.

44. (Previously presented) The system of claim 43 wherein said information comprises distributed interface data.

45. (new) The process of claim 43 further including an authenticator that authenticates the mobile system for authorization to communicate with the node over at least one of said disjoint network segments before sending the identifying information to the mobile system.

46. (new) The process of claim 43 wherein said mobile system comprises a network interface adapter physically attached to at least one of said disjoint network segments.

47. (new) The process of claim 43 wherein said mobile system shares an interface address with each of said plural disjoint network segments so that if the mobile system roams into any one of the disjoint network segments and detects that it has roamed onto a different network segment, the mobile end system selects an appropriate network address to communicate with the node via said disjoint network segment into which said mobile end system has roamed.

48. (new) The process of claim 43 wherein mobile end system selects said network address based on a metric.

49. (New) The process of claim 48 wherein said metric comprises speed.

50 (New). The process of claim 48 wherein said metric comprises cost.

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51 (New). The process of claim 48 wherein said metric comprises availability.

52 (New). The process of claim 48 wherein said metric comprises number of hops.